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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image workflow system for use in transferring, through a network, an operation document image (or a work sheet image) extracted from an operation document which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document, comprising:

a workflow control table which stores the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document; and

an image identifying server for identifying the species of the operation document from the operation document image to retrieve the species stored in the workflow control table in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result to the network.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising an input device coupled to the image identifying server to supply the operation document as the operation document image into the image identifying server.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the recognized result is transmitted to the network together with the operation document image in the form of a packet.

4. The system of claim 3, further comprising at least one terminal which includes a destination terminal as the destination and which is coupled to the network.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the operation document image is processed on the basis of the operation designated by the

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recognized result, at the destination terminal which receives the operation document image.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document by using character recognition of an identification code representative of the species when the identification code is included in the operation document.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server identifies the species of the operation document by recognizing an image pattern peculiar to the operation document when an identification code which stands for the species is not included in the operation document.

8. The system of claim 5, wherein the destination terminal automatically activates a program performing the corresponding operation to the recognized result when the terminal receives the operation document image.

9. The system of claim 3, wherein the image identifying server transmits the packet to a plurality of destination terminals simultaneously when the plurality of destination terminals are associated with the identified species in the workflow control table.

10. The system of claim 3, wherein the packet is transmitted from a first terminal to a second terminal after processing of the packet at the first terminal according to the destination terminals specified in the packet when the plurality of destination terminals are associated with the single identified species in the workflow control table.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the image identifying server observes efficiency of a plurality of terminals and selects one

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of the terminals which have the lowest efficiency as the destination terminal when the plurality of terminals are associated with the single identification species in the workflow control table.

12. A method of managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image extracted from an operation document which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document; and

identifying the species of the operation document from the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result to the network.

13. A computer readable medium which stores a program operable for managing image workflow for transferring, through a network, an operation document image extracted from an operation document which is featured by a species, a destination, and operation to be handled to the operation document, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in advance, the species, the destination, and the operation assigned to each operation document; and

identifying the species of the operation document from the operation document image to retrieve the stored species in response to the identified species, to automatically recognize the corresponding destination and operation, and to transmit a recognized result to the network.